



Supporting your respiratory patients

Impact of lung disease

- Over 12 million people in the UK have been diagnosed with lung disease and 550,000 new diagnoses are made each year.
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a term used to describe a number of conditions including emphysema and chronic bronchitis.
- An estimated 1.2 million people are living with diagnosed COPD and prevalence is increasing.
- The cost of prescribing inhaled medication in the UK is almost £1 billion yet inhaler technique is poor.

Supporting your patients

We recognise that community pharmacy has a key role in the management of lung disease and supporting people to understand their condition. We would like to work with you to provide quality support for your patients.

The British Lung Foundation (BLF) is the only UK charity looking after the nation's lungs. We offer expert advice, quality information and practical support for your patients through our telephone helpline, website, web community and BLF Breathe Easy groups.

Our free patient resources

- Our award winning **COPD Patient Passport** gives 10 steps to the best COPD care to help your patient manage their condition.
- We provide health information covering conditions such as asthma, COPD, bronchiectasis, pneumonia, as well as information to support healthy lifestyles such as stopping smoking, exercise and diet. Additionally we provide self-management resources.

All our resources can be ordered or downloaded online at blf.org.uk/hcp

BLF helpline

Our helpline provides information to patients, their carers and family and friends on all aspects of living with a lung condition.

Helpline number is **03000 030 555**

Individual helpline cards which provide our number and details can be ordered online at blf.org.uk/hcp to be given out to your patients.

Supporting pharmacists

Questions to ask your respiratory patients - we have produced a simple guide to support you when talking to your patients, either as part of a medicine use review (MUR) or during routine visits that focuses on medication adherence and understanding, as well as promoting healthy life styles.

This document is available via the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC) website at psnc.org.uk or can be requested from your local Service Development Manager.

BLF Professionals - if you have a special interest in respiratory care, then you may be interested in becoming a BLF Professional which entitles you to support and resources such as respiratory study days, opportunities to shadow respiratory services, as well as chances to network with other respiratory health care professionals.

For further information about BLF Professionals and how you can join please visit our website at blf.org.uk/hcp

Partnership opportunities

If you or your local pharmacy is interested in working together to help raise awareness about good lung health and improving support for patients, then we would like to hear from you.

You can contact your local Service Development Manager at:

Name	Region	Email
Ashley Green	London & south east	ashley.green@blf.org.uk
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